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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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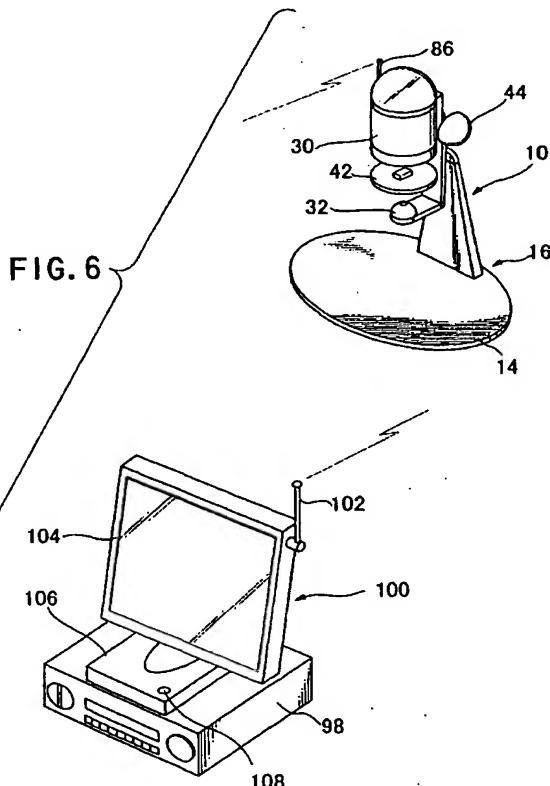
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(54) Microscope with wireless television camera

(57) A television camera apparatus having a microscopic unit (10) and observing unit or a monitor unit (100) are not connected to each other by cable, and this eliminates restrictions of a relative position of the microscopic unit (10) to the monitor unit (100), so as to facilitate indoor observation of samples such as snow as they would be in their respective natural environments. The present invention is also directed to providing a television camera apparatus (40) of a simple configuration which allows an observer to see samples from desired positions without rotating the sample-mounting plate (42). The television camera apparatus is provided with a base (12), a supporting arm (22) pivotally fixed about a rotation axis orthogonal to the base, a sample-mounting plate (42), microscopic object optics (30), and illuminating optics (32) attached respectively to the supporting arm (22), and a wireless television camera unit (40) located in an imaging position in the microscopic object optics.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Y	US 2002/118450 A1 (ITO EIICHI ET AL) 29 August 2002 (2002-08-29) * paragraph [0061] - paragraph [0063]; figure 1 * & JP 00 338415 A 12 August 2000 (2000-08-12) ---	1-9	G02B21/36 H04N7/18 G02B21/24
Y	US 6 069 651 A (HASEGAWA AKIRA ET AL) 30 May 2000 (2000-05-30) * column 15, line 64 - column 16, line 8; figure 18 *	1-9	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 05, 31 May 1996 (1996-05-31) & JP 08 005933 A (HITACHI DENSHI LTD), 12 January 1996 (1996-01-12) * abstract *	1-10	
A	WO 99 50636 A (KARBE PETER ;KUEHN JOACHIM (DE); CREMA ROLF (DE); HARAND BERND (DE) 7 October 1999 (1999-10-07) * page 5, line 19 - line 28; figures 2,3 *	1-9	
Y	US 6 097 538 A (KUBOTA SHUNICHI ET AL) 1 August 2000 (2000-08-01) * column 3, line 27 - column 5, line 55; figure 1 *	10	
A	WO 00 38415 A (AGAN MARTIN J ;FOSSUM ERIC R (US); NIXON BOB H (US); OLSON BRITA H) 29 June 2000 (2000-06-29) * page 4, line 5 - page 5, line 34; figure 1A *	1-9	
Y		10	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			G02B H04N

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search MUNICH	Date of completion of the search 16 December 2002	Examiner Rödig, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or principle underlying the invention	
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date	
A : technological background	D : document cited in the application	
O : non-written disclosure	L : document cited for other reasons	
P : intermediate document	& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

- As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

- None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-9

television microscope with wireless camera unit/object optics and illuminating optics fixed on a rotatable supporting arm

2. Claim : 10

television camera apparatus with object lens barrel, wireless camera and a wireless display device

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 31 0461

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

16-12-2002

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